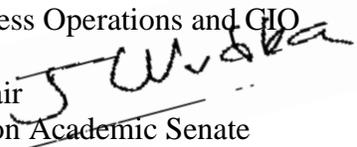




September 21, 2012

To: Charles J. Rowley, Interim Vice Chancellor
Finance & Business Operations and GIO

From: Jose Wudka, Chair 
Riverside Division Academic Senate

Re: Response to the call for comments on the UCOP Draft Policy on
International Activities

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Policy on International Activities. Please find below the comments from the Senate.

None of the comments refer to the technical aspects of the document, they instead relate to various points of confusion related to the terms being used. Most of these issues can be addressed by including appropriate clarifications.

Certain aspects of the document are difficult to understand because of the lack of definitions or references. For example "activity" and "International Activity" are not defined; the policy should define not only what constitutes an international activity under this policy, but also what does not. In particular this policy should **abstain from regulating**

- Individual research activity carried out internationally, such as field, library and museum work)
- Participation of individuals in international meetings, workshops, and courses; and the participation of individual researchers in organizing these kinds of activities.
- Regular international collaborations that may involve one or many UC researchers from one or several UC campuses. Note that it is also unclear which chancellor will have oversight in case the international activity involve several UC campuses.

As a related item, the ambiguity in the definition of "activity" makes the tax-exempt status mentioned in section III.A.2 confusing: would this refer also to honoraria for seminars?

The term "propaganda" should also be clearly specified. The ambiguous presentation can potentially be used to restrict legitimate academic activities that relate to controversial subjects. This is not intended to suggest that no boundary is acceptable, but instead that restrictions should be clearly specified while taking into account the activities of the faculty.

Another source of ambiguity is the use of the term "sponsor" . Under the new policy chancellors are allowed to "establish, operate, oversee and terminate all campus-Sponsored International Activities other than Subsidiaries" (section III and II.A.1). Does this refer only to activities supported using campus physical resources and/or funding? Or, for example, if a department encourages a faculty member to participate in an international conference (and perhaps also arranges for a short term teaching relief), would the department be considered as sponsoring the conference? Could the chancellors limit this last type of activities?

In addition, the terms "reputable" and "of recognized standing" in sections III B.5b and III B.5c have different meanings, and that one or the other should be used, or some additional clarification be added.

Finally, in connection with the statement on "Informational materials" in section III D it might be prudent to note that the list of items exempted from this category is not intended to include all books irrespective of value and subject matter.